Alabama Coliseum Is South's Answer To Madison Sq. Garden

BY MARION E. JACKSON

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — (SNS) This fabled cradle of the confederacy has come up with the deep south's answer to Madison Square Garden in its $3 million dollar Alabama Coliseum.

The structure started three years ago is expected to be completed after another year's work. To date $1,500,000 has been spent on the modernistic, oval-shaped structure located just outside the City of Montgomery. A $1,250,000 bond issue will complete it.

Various Athletic groups including the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and the white Southeastern Conference have eyed with varying degrees of interest the building which was designed as a show place for Alabama's Agricultural products. The unique-looking building has been describ-as an "overgrown quonset hut" and "concrete turtle."

An outcropping of less flattering names — Cow Coliseum and Bull Pen — provoked the Center Board to adopt the official title "The State Coliseum" and to discourage use of nicknames.

The Coliseum has a larger arena space than the famed Madison Square Garden and is the largest structure of its kind in the South.

There are 9,200 permanent seats, but 11,000 persons will be able to watch a basketball game and 13,-500 can be squeezed in for a fight.

All seats are on the side of the circular shaped arena — no end zone seats.

The structure is circular in shape — from end to end and front to bottom. Only half of the circle is above ground. A circular hunk of concrete bends in the center to form the roof — leaving the front and back sections to be enclosed with glass bricks.

Rows of seats tiered, upward towards the back leave room underneath for cattle bins, four conference rooms, dormitory space for 400 boys and concession stands.

Three levels of seats have 21 entrances — designed to permit emptying of the building in four minutes. The parking lot — with space for 4,000 cars — can be vacated in 15 minutes.

As big and bulky as the concrete roof is, it is designed to react to heat — to expand an inch or two on the east side and to contract on that side when the West side expands with the afternoon sun.

Director Tom C. Reid says the Coliseum function is going to reach into every phase of agriculture, sports, industry, religion and politics.

Eventually the 152-acre lot on which the Coliseum is located will also have storage barns for cattle, hogs, and horse, a series of industrial exhibit spaces, a youth center with dormitory space, an auditorium, a grand stand, race track and outdoor picnic grounds.

A State Park for Negroes

For a long time Alabama Negroes have been underprivileged in the matter of state parks. Although they constitute one-third of the state's population, there has been no major state recreational park for them.

But that discrimination, that blemish upon the state, is being remedied. The State Conservation Department has purchased 2,200 acres of land along the Tennessee River in Lauderdale and Lawrence Counties for conversion into a state park for Negroes. For two years the department has had the area under lease. Its purchase now from the Tennessee Valley Authority makes possible a sustained and long-range development program.

The area will be set aside at first for day-use, swimming, boating, picnicking and general recreation purposes. State Conservation Director Earl M. McGowin expects the park to rank second only to Gulf State Park in attendance.

The obligation of the state government to provide more recreational opportunities for Negroes should not be limited to this North Alabama park, however. The objective of the state park system calls for a major state park within a day's easy driving distance of any resident of the state. That goal has been attained for white residents. It will not be attained for Negroes until there is also a major recreational area for them somewhere in South Alabama.

HAMMOCK BEACH 4,000 acre Ocean-front recreation site
Onslow County, North Carolina

Instructors Enjoy Gift of 4,000-Acre Beach in Tarheelia

By A. M. RIVERA Jr.

DR. WILLIAM SHARPE
'unreligious hater' of prejudice

Good Words—Dr. and Mrs. Will W. Alexander exchange bon mots with John Hirst, caretaker and friend of Dr. William Sharpe, the donor of Hammocks Beach. Dr. Alexander said at dedicatory ceremonies, "whatever else has happened to Negroes in this country, they have always had the friendship of thoughtful and able whites."—Rivera Photo.

SWANSBORO, N. C.—"The miracle of Hammocks Beach cannot be duplicated anywhere in the world and could not have happened anywhere but in America," declared Dr. Will W. Alexander, former administrator of the Farm Security Administration and vice president of the Rosenwald Fund.

Hammocks Beach is a 4,000-acre ocean-front recreation site in Onslow County, which was recently given to the Negro teachers of this state by a Georgia-born neurosurgeon.

Dr. Alexander told an audience recently at the dedication of the beach project, "This is another evidence of how thoughtful people regard the race problem in this country.

"Those who have contributed to the progress of the Negro, whether in sympathies, money, or even with lives, have never been more richly rewarded. Negroes have paid a terribly big dividend to all of us who have contributed to their progress."

* * *

THERE ARE really several miracles attached to the Hammocks Beach idea, which this strange story will tell. It all began about thirty years ago when Dr. William Sharpe, promising young brain specialist, came to this area as guest of some friends, to do some duck hunting, and was assigned to the care of a Negro named John Hirst, who was to assist him.

For three years, the young Harvard-trained specialist returned for the hunt, and each year Hirst was his companion. Dr. Sharpe bought more and more property yearly until he owned the present 4,500 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hirst became caretakers for the Sharpe retreat, which the doctor named "The Hammocks," and which he learned to love and enjoy. In appreciation for, and in recognition of, the devotion, love and kindess which the capable Mr. and Mrs. Hirst showed him during three decades of service, Dr. Sharpe decided to give the property to them.

* * *

FEARING THAT resentment by some of the citizens in the section would make their retention of the land impossible, Mrs. Gertrude Hirst, a former school teacher, suggested to Dr. Sharpe that he give the property to the North Carolina Teachers Association to be used as a recreational area for Negro organizations in the state.

Dr. Sharpe approved the idea. Later, while on a trip to the Pacific Coast, he was engaged in a conversation with a stranger in the cocktail room of the train.

The stranger, who proved to be Lawrence Hughes, former Farm Security Administration associate of Dr. Will Alexander, at first thought Dr. Sharpe's proposal to give the land to the Negroes a result of the feeling of generosity that sometimes accompanies several cocktails.

* * *

UPON LEARNING of the doctor's sincerity, however, Hughes referred Dr. Sharpe to Dr. Alexander, a long-time worker for interracial good-will in the South.

Arrangements were made for a meeting between the two men at the Harvard Club in New York City. At first, Dr. Alexander was inclined to think Dr. Sharpe was hardly aware of the magnitude of the proposal he was discussing. For a time, it appeared that no meeting would be held, but, while in New York awaiting his son's return on military leave, Dr. Alexander remembered to contact Dr. Sharpe.

Out of this meeting grew some of the fruitful planning that eventually led to the development of the Hammock's Beach idea.

* * *

AFTER SEVERAL meetings in 1947 with white and Negro leaders of the state, Dr. Sharpe outlined the terms by which he would give his place to the Negroes of North Carolina.

The late North Carolina Governor J. Melville Broughton was present at one such meeting and agreed to prepare the deed for the transfer of the property.

Although no strings were attached to the gift, there were two stipulations which almost lost the spa to the Negroes. The first was a provision that the teachers raise $100,000 to erect necessary buildings, sewers and water supply.

The second stipulation that Dr. Sharpe insisted upon was putting the project in the hands of a permanent board in trust for the teachers, rather than to risk it to the executive board of the teachers' association, which is subject to be influenced by politics of the association.

AFTER A half-dozen years, these differences were ironed out, and June 15 of this year the Hammocks was opened to the Negro teachers of this state.

During the six years of negotiations, much was learned about the remarkable and unusual surgeon and philanthropist. An almost incredible discovery came during a dinner meeting between Dr. Sharpe and some of his Negro guests. Before the meal, one of the guests asked the others to bow their heads for the bless-

Courier
P. 3
Pittsburgh Pa
Oct. 1952
7-5-52

Developers—Months and years of planning went into the development of the initial stages of Hammocks Beach, N. C. No one except contractors and members of the building trades has received any compensation for services. Examining the plans when the Hammocks was in the "thought stage" are a group of men who have labored tirelessly to bring the idea into full bloom. They are, left to right, Dr. Harold Trigg, president of St. Augustine College; Dr. W. H. Robinson, architect; Dr. Alfonso Elder, president of North Carolina College and president of the committee on building and expansion; S. C. Anderson, school principal; S. B. Simmons, state director of New Farmers of America; R. E. Hayes, contractor, and J. H. Wheeler, treasurer of the corporation.

ing.

When this ceremony was completed, Dr. Sharpe looked up at Hirst and said, "John, I believe that's the first time a blessing has been asked at this table in thirty years, isn't it?" John shook his head and said, "I believe so."

Dr. Sharpe is the son of a Presbyterian minister.

* * *

THE RENOWNED brain surgeon, who has performed operations on members of royal families throughout the world, is intolerant of any racial discrimination and prejudice.

An indication of his respect for Hirst was revealed in an incident which the doctor related to his guests.

He told of a time when the motor went dead on his boat while he and Hirst were on a fishing trip. Hirst, according to Dr. Sharpe, made a carburetor out of a bar of soap. "It was then that I realized that John had more sense than I had."

Main Building—The main building in the center of the "mainland" is the $35,000 Gertrude Hirst Memorial Administration Building. This structure houses an auditorium with a seating capacity of 400, an office, snack bar, ladies and men's rest rooms, information counter and kitchen. Skirting the building is a spacious porch which will accommodate those who just want to sit and look. This building was named in honor of Mrs. Gertrude Hirst who suggested to Dr. William Sharpe, the donor, to give the site to the teachers. — Rivera Photo.

41 1952

Florida

LET'S HELP SAVE THE BETHUNE BEACH PROJECT

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter is an appeal to Negro citizens interested in the further progress and development of a Negro enterprise. The letter concerns the sale of lots and the development of a community at Bethune-Volusia Beach being developed by Negroes for recreational and resort purposes. Money and assistance are needed to maintain and further expand the area into what is possible to become one of the most exclusive and profitable resort places in the nation. This appeal is to those who cherish and desire further promotion of Negro enterprises everywhere.

S. O. S. CALL — TO NEGRO CITIZENS OF AMERICA

May I make one long, strong, definite appeal to you for assistance in saving, for the possession and control of Negroes of Florida and America, the finest Atlantic Beach site on the East Coast of Florida — 2½ miles on the Northern arm of the Indian River. We hold, for your possession and control, this beautiful stretch of land that cannot be duplicated, but it must be made secure by your immediate help.

For 34 years we have worked and sacrificed to acquire and hold this property. Since its purchase, after years of trying to secure it, it has been burdened by a large mortgage, which we have reduced as much as possible from income accruing from property and stock sales. The mortgage on the unsold portion of the property is now $89,000. It is held by a White financier of Coral Gables, Florida. It became due on May 15, 1952 and is being sought on all sides by interested people of the other race. If the property is to be saved for Negroes of our own, and future generations, we must immediately satisfy this mortgage obligation.

May I earnestly call upon you, the Negro Citizens of America — individuals and groups — to invest in this project, in order that it may be held by and for Negroes? We have sent out a call to 10 outstanding Negro business men to invest $10,000 each in the project, take over the mortgage and approve further development of the project, to enhance the sales program. We are soliciting and inviting your participation, through the purchase of Capital Stock at $50 a share. We are earnestly requesting the consideration of any Negro group or groups to take over the full mortgage on this valuable property, or to invest $5,000 or $10,000 on a mortgage basis. 860 lots have been sold and there are 1600 left for sale, with a conservative sales value of $325,000.

Because of the natural recreational facilities and splendid year-round climate, Florida has become a very popular State. People are coming here in great numbers, buying every foot of land they can possibly secure. We have struggled valiantly to hold to this property, because of the difficulty that Negroes have in purchasing Beach sites. The late G. D. Rogers, Sr., of Tampa, shared with me the dream that there would, be some day, a beautiful Beach subdivision on Florida's East Coast — owned and controlled by the Negroes of America. Since the passing of Mr. Rogers, I have served as President of our Corporation, for I am the founder of Bethune Beach. A few of us have pooled our resources, at great personal sacrifice, to cut roads through much of the area, bring in electric power and build a simple bathing pavilion. One of our property-owners has built a beautiful Beach home and garage apartment,, another a general store, and a group is now building a modern Motel. The latter is one-half completed, with 14 units finished and furnished. They are in great demand by the constant stream of visitors to the Beach.

Our Corporation for handling this property is organized under the laws of the state of Florida. Prof. J. N. Crooms, veteran educator of Sanford, Florida, is first Vice-President, Mr. George W. Engram, progressive business man of Daytona Beach, is Executive Vice-President and General Manager; Mrs. Minnie L. Rogers, wife of the late G. D. Rogers, Sr., Tampa's most outstanding Negro Business Executive, is treasurer; Mrs. Bertha L. Mitchell, with twenty-five years' experience in institutional business, is Secretary and Accountant. Our office is maintained in Daytona Beach. Our 32 stockholders and 300 property purchasers are located all over America.

We need cooperation and reinforcement from Negroes who have faith in the working and investing strength of our own people. We want Negroes to own and control this Beach subdivision. It has national as well as state prominence. On July 4, 1952, there were between 8,000 and 10,000 people on this Beach — a glorious sight. Bethune Beach is about forty minutes' drive from Bethune-Cookman College. During the years we have been struggling to hold it, we have received the finest cooperation from the White residents of this area.

May I call upon the Churches, business and professional men and women, groups of all types — fraternal, business, social, civic — ordinary men and women of all walks of life, to pool their strength and help make this long, strong pull to keep the property in the possession of Negroes.

I am writing this letter just after my 77th birthday. This is my last, long, earnest call for this type of endeavor. It is not a call for charity, but for an investment that will be of benefit to our own generation and our posterity. We are trying to build a resort that may be open to all people — not a segregated resort — one that is owned and controlled by Negro people.

Will you answer my Call?

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE,
Founder-President,
Bethune-Volusia Beach, Inc.

GATHERED HERE AND THERE
Bethune-Volusia Beach

BY MRS. W. A. SCOTT, SR.

BETHUNE-VOLUSIA BEACH, — Florida — (SNS) — July 4th, 1952 will be a memorable day to thousands of people — and I do mean thousands — who gathered at beautiful Bethune Beach for a day of pleasure and a real sea-side outing. The weather was ideal and it was an interesting and colorful sight — the beautiful white sand beach — the mass of adults and children in gay colored bathing suits all colors of umbrellas dotted here and there — all made up an ideal Beach scene — just such as you see in pictures and on gayly colored postcards.

There was plenty of a July 4th menu on hand — water melons, soft drinks, hot dogs, etc. Automobiles from many states were there and a bus from Atlanta.

A nice representation of the 800 lot owners were on hand in response to a call from Mrs. Bethune to study plans for the further development of this beautiful 2½ mile tract of ocean-front property on Florida's east coast for which she and a few far-sighted friends have worked for 34 years to keep in the hands of colored people. Salesmen, builders, contractors were on hand to give information.

Mrs. Bethune addressed the great crowd through a loud-speaker, as did several other visitors.

This Beach is located about 20 miles from the city of Daytona Beach (about 40 min. drive) and only 6 miles from New Smyrna's Railroad Station — a town of about 15,000 with whose commissioners the Beach officials enjoy fine cooperation.

The new Motel (like everything Mrs. Bethune does) is the last word in modern design — a half circle — and beauty. The room furnishings are lovely. The Beach is becoming well known and now offers sufficient facilities to visitors. When the whole project is completed including dining hall, sun parlor, sun bath and auditorium, landscaping, streets etc., it will be second to none in the nation for Negroes. Mrs. Bethune is spending her first visit to her beach in Unit 12 on the end — And isn't she enjoying it! There she is taking a much needed rest, enjoying the delightful ocean breezes, and continually thanking God for the realization of her "dream" and His goodness to her — enjoying the results of 34 years — of work for her people. She will quietly July 10th. She is a marvelous woman! A wonderful woman!!

Sunday morning at breakfast Mrs Bethune requested me to have the devotion. She handed me a small old book that she had had rebound. I looked at the fly leaf. It was copyrighted in 1907. The name — The Optimists Good Morning, Compiled by Florence Hobart. It contained a literary gem and a prayer for each day in the year. On this day July 6th the selection was by John Ruskin on God's goodness and desires for men. The prayer was by Isaac P. Coddington. Mrs. Bethune told me that this same book had been John D. Rockefellers guide for many (I think she said 50) years before his death. His housekeeper gave it to Mrs. Bethune. Now it is her daily guide. No wonder she has faith that moves mountains (of obstacles) from her pathway — being led by John D. Rockefeller's religious guide and having Franklin D. Roosevelt's cane to lean on. This may explain why she still has millionaires and presidents and presidents wives among her friends and has led hundreds of her friends into the White House and Embassies.

Making that flying trip with her a few days ago to Washington, New York City, Brooklyn and Englewood was thrilling, but to actually live with her — to eat and sleep and talk with her — for 3 days in the quiet, peaceful, restful atmosphere of Bethune Beach is a mountain-top experience the writer shall never forget.

With Mrs. Bethune at the Beach were her daughter-in-law Mrs. Albert Bethune, Jr. and her niece, Mrs. Jerona Miller and her daughter Little Miss Agnes Miller.

IN JACKSONVILLE

Sunday evening at 6 o'clock, I boarded the train at New Smyrna for Jacksonville. Arriving at the hospitable home of the Tyson sisters, 1758 Louisiana Avenue where visitors and travelers find an abundance of home-like comforts including good things to eat

Monday was spent there in the company of Mrs. Rosa Moore, mother, of the late lamented Harry T. Moore. She had a very interesting trip to the NAACP meeting. We went shopping and attended the Republican Convention in Chicago, via of a 17-inch television — quite an interesting meeting, isn't it.

STATE-WIDE RECREATION CONFAB BEGINS HERE WED.

BY GEORGE COLEMAN

Local recreational leaders will receive information and training designed to increase interest and effectiveness for people of all ages and walks of life Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, when the Seventh Annual State-Wide Recreation Conference is held at the Atlanta School of Social Work and the Morehouse College Gymnasium.

The conference, sponsored by the Georgia State Recreation Association in cooperation with the Atlanta School of Social Work, will have as its eventful goal, or an attempt to meet present and future needs during a possible critical era.

With Georgia declared a vital area for national defense, defense plants will bring together thousands, who will need many forms of recreation in the near future. In the event of all out war, the entire population will require ways and means of relieving tension through forms of recreation, officials said.

ACTUAL TRAINING

Phenizee F. Ransom, Jr., president of the Georgia Recreation Association, related that the programs Wednesday and Thursday are designed to embrace phases of industrial, institutional and hospital recreation.

Part of the conference will deal with lectures, but the major portion will consist of actual training and practice supervised by a nationally acclaimed specialist, Mr. Ransom affirmed.

The almost standard idea among people that recreation consists simply of playing such games as football, basketball, baseba, etc., is doomed for a drastic change during the training session, Ransom said.

Recreation, said the conference president, covers a very broad area, depending upon the individual, his personal desires and the economic situation at hand. The training program will seek to advance ideas of how to entertain all types of people from all walks of life.

ALL GROUPS INVITED

Special invitation has been sent to such groups as: Boy and Girl Scouts; religious groups; Hospital groups, YMCA, YWCA, Parent Teacher groups, etc. Recreation leaders, who may be given assignments in schools under the Extended School Program will find valuable information at the conference, Mr. Ransom related.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The program begins Wednesday morning at the Atlanta School of Social Work.

REGISTRATION will be held from 8 to 10 a. m.

OPENING SESSION will be at 10 a. m., with an opening session addressed by Dr. Forrester Washington. During the opening session there will be a panel discussion, "Meeting Recreation Needs in the Present Emergency."

Mrs. Marjorie Johnson, of the School of Social Work, will serve as panel leader, assisted by Miss Virginia Carmichael, Director of Atlanta Recreation Dept., C. E. Richardson, Consultant, State Department of Education, Miss Barbara Baskerville, School of Social Work and Willie B. Sheftall, Treasurer, Georgia Recreation Association. Miss Gwendoyn Chambre will serve as Recorder.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION, from 12 until 2 p. m., will have as its topic, "Community Defense Services." The discussion will be led by James C. Evans, Civilian Aid, United States Department of Defense, and Dr. Robert B. Griffin, Executive Secretary, Atlanta Committee of USO's, Clarence D. Coleman, Urban League. Miss Braxton Davis will serve as Recorder.

EVENING SESSION, 7 until 9 p. m. Topic, "Education for Recreation." Discussion will be led by Dr. Alan E. Weatherford, Professor of North Carolina College, Clyde E. McCrary, Executive Director, the Bethlehem Community Center. Recorder will be Miss Phyllis Dews, Executive Director, Atlanta Girl Scouts.

THURSDAY TRAINING DAY

The entire session Thursday will be held at the Morehouse Gymnasium, and will consist of actual games, plays and other forms of recreation, under direction of Mrs Anne Livingston, Recreation specialist of the National Recreation Association with headquarters in New York City.

Some of the interesting items on program are "Balanced Programs," "Breaking the Ice," "Development of Interest in the Program," and "Methods in Adapting Activities."

Some of the actual training periods will include "Get acquainted games," "Stunt Songs,' "Children's games, Seasonal activities, and activities of different age levels.

FRIDAY'S PROGRAM

On Friday methods of actual recreation training will continue with Mrs. Livingston lending still more of her talents and training to bring to the Atlanta public methods and ideas to incorporate into recreation for all people of all ages, and from all walks of life, in order to add brightness to a section of the word dominated by strife and fear of war.

Calls For More Parks And Recreational Facilities

Recommendations that additional Negro police officers be added to the Atlanta Police Department and that additional parks and recreational facilities be provided the Negro population were made by the Fulton County Grand Jury in presentments submitted Friday to Fulton Superior Court Judge George P. Whitman.

Among the members of the November-December 1951 jury, were Prof. C. L. Harper, executive secretary of the Georgia Teachers And Education Association, of 1290 Hunter Street, S. W., and Lucius Mitchell, a postal employee, of 1131 Hunter Street, N. W.

The report indicated that the Grand Jury had acted on all matters brought before it by the Solicitor General, and the recommendations included the following:

NEGRO POLICE

It is recommended that additional Negro police officers be added to the Atlanta Police Department to patrol Atlanta's widely scattered Negro areas and give better protection of lives and property of Negro citizens.

NEGRO PARKS

It is also recommended that additional parks and recreational facilities be provided the Negro population of Atlanta and Fulton County.

With the Grand Jury closing its term of office just prior to the meeting of the Georgia General Assembly, the most important presentments deal with needed legislation.

The jurors investigated present methods of assessing real property in the City of Atlanta and the areas of Fulton County which were annexed January 1, 1952, and in order to insure equitable and uniform assessments, recommended that with respect to the areas annexed the City accept the present values assessed by the County and that the County as has been the custom, assess on the basis of 70 percent of the assessment used by the city.

(CARVER PARK ENTRANCE)

There will be nothing finer in all the South among Negro cemeteries than Carver Memorial Cemetery. Choose now while you may, rather than later when you must. "Preparedness on the hills of life means sunshine in the valleys." Call either MAin 6063 or MAin 7826 and make an appointment to see this place of beauty. — (Adv.)

41 1952 Maryland

SEES PERSECUTION TINGE:

Scarlett Cites Persecution For Lavish Country Club

Afro-American P. 14 Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE

Persecution because of his ownership of a rolling farm and country club in prejudiced Westminster, rather than prosecution because of any alleged law violation was charged, Friday, by Austin Scarlett.

Convicted for the second time on numbers conspiracy charges, the rotund country club operator declared that hardly a day passes without some white person offering to purchase his farm.

Pressure Brought

It is generally known that pressure and opposition were brought by white residents of the Westminster area when Scarlett purchased the lavish grounds and began operating it as a swank country club several years ago.

As far back as last August when he was first called before the grand jury during the "racket busting" investigation that led to his indictment, Scarlett voiced the opinion that his ownership of the farm was the basis for his being investigated.

Bal. 4-12-52

On Friday, when a jury for the second time convicted him on the numbers charge, Scarlett again voiced this opinion. He said he constantly gets queries of "Scarlett, why don't you sell your farm?" and "Scarlett, you want to sell your farm?"

Third Trial Sought

Meanwhile, defense counsel for the business man prepared, this week, to petition for a third trial. Scarlett has promised that if necessary, he will carry his conviction to the Court of Appeals.

At both trials, he was named as a numbers "backer" by Horace Cann, former House of Correction prisoner who turned State's evidence.

Co-Defendant Freed

At the second trial, however, Scarlett's do-defendant Harry Gross, also involved by Cann, was released because of lack of evidence to back up Cann's lottery charges against Gross.

Elis Levin, counsel for Gross, succeeded in quashing the warrant used to search Gross's home where lottery evidence was found and referred to at the first trial.

This left no lottery evidence against Gross at the second trial except the testimony of Cann. A defendant cannot be convicted of conspiracy on the unsupported testimony of an accomplice.

Cann Backed Up

In the case against Scarlett, however, the State not only produced the testimony of Cann, but that of Edgar Wilkes who lives at 604 Arlington Ave. which was raided as a numbers headquarters in Aug., 1950. Wilkes testified that he chauffeured for Scarlett who picked up numbers during that year.

Also revived was the 1950 raid which turned up Scarlett's wallet at the Arlington Ave. address, and his arrest the next day at his Madison Ave. home where other lottery evidence was found.

Scarlett was acquitted in this 1950 case, but Judge E. Paul Mason allowed all of this testimony to be repeated in the conspiracy trial.

The judge also refused to rule out the warrants used to raid the Wilkes home, and to arrest Scarlett at that time.

1950 Arrest Illegal

It is thought that this will be one of the issues argued in the motion for the third trial in view of the fact that Scarlett's 1950 arrest was illegal.

For Scarlett's defense at the second trial, Palmer Ingram, attorney, produced Roger Wilkes, brother of Edgar, who said the Arlington Ave. lottery belonged to a Richard Lyon and not to Scarlett.

"Hot" In East Baltimore

Wilkes said Lyon had asked him to take a "couple days action" to his house because things were "hot in East Baltimore."

Wilkes also testified that his brother Edgar does not have a reputation for telling the truth.

Explaining further why Scarlett later pawned an adding machine that had been seized in the raid, Roger Wilkes said he had asked Scarlett to pawn it for him as a favor.

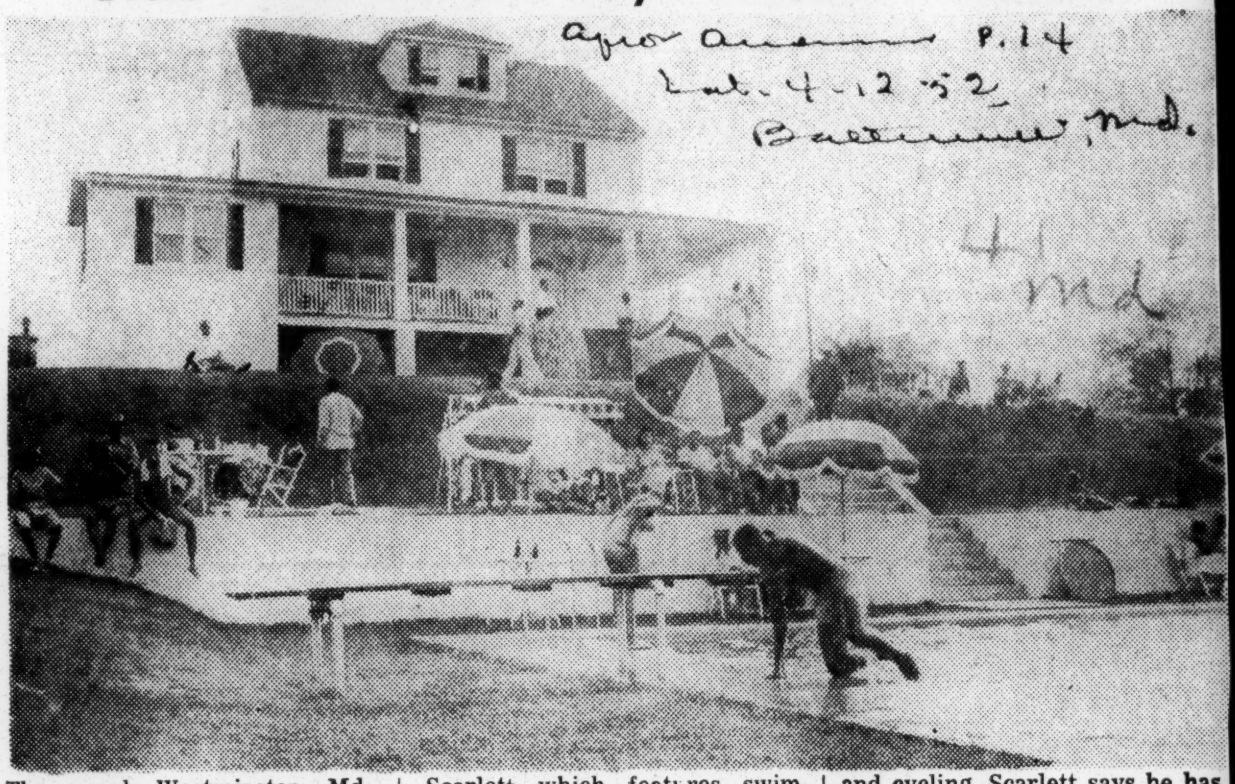
Scarlett did not take the stand in his own behalf. He was released under $7,500 bail pending the new trial motion.

Mrs. Lucy Cann, the wife of Horace Cann, meanwhile, may be allowed to keep $750 which she said was given to her by "some little man" to pay her husband's fine, and which she turned over to police.

Cann, sentenced in July to 6 months, and fined $750, testified that Scarlett promised to pay Mrs. Cann $40 a week while he was in prison, and that Scarlett "didn't keep his promise, so I didn't keep mine."

Club That Owner Says Caused Trouble

Afro-American P. 14 Bal. 4-12-52 Baltimore, Md.



The swank Westminster, Md., country club owned by Austin Scarlett which features swimming, horseback riding, dancing and cycling. Scarlett says he has been approached repeatedly to sell.

41 Md.

On Park Board

The Rev. Wilbur H. Waters, pastor of Emanuel Christian Community Church, has been appointed to the Baltimore Park Board by Mayor D'Alesandro. The minister succeeds Dr. Bernard Harris whom the mayor named to fill a vacancy on the School Board.

DEDICATION OF NEGRO AUDITORIUM IN U. S. SPOTLIGHT

Arthur Goodman of Atlanta, Paramount News picture photographer, is shown above filming the dedication of College Park Auditorium for Negroes here Sunday. He is filming the talk by Mayor Allen Thompson. Shown seated on the stage (left to right) are Dr. J. L. Reddix, Negro, president of Jackson College; George Kurts, city recreation director; Dr. W. B. Selah, pastor of Galloway Memorial Methodist church, the principal speaker for the occasion; Commissioner R. S. Withers, Commissioner D. B. Sharron and City Personnel Director J. Bryant Horne. In the foreground is the Jackson College band. The movies were air-mailed to New York Sunday night and may be shown in theaters late next week. (Photo by Ralph Hargrove.)

Paramount Films Dedication Here Of Negro Auditorium

Jackson's new $350,000 College Park Auditorium for Negroes was dedicated Sunday in ceremonies attended by a crowd of at least 1800. The occasion was photographed by Paramount News Pictures.

The auditorium is the only municipally operated auditorium exclusively for Negroes in the United States.

Principal speaker for the occasion was Dr. W. B. Selah pastor of Galloway Memorial Methodist church. The response was made by Dr. Jacob L. Reddix, president of Jackson College.

Mayor Allen Thompson, Commission D. B. Sharron, Commissioner R. S. Withers, City Recreation Director George Kurts and other city officials participated in the dedication program.

Choral and band music was presented by various groups.

The auditorium is part of a civic center for Negroes at College Park where a $150,000 swimming pool, and modern community house and park and playground facilities have already been completed. The auditorium includes a new library branch, and features of the auditorium proper include seating for 2500, basketball court, dance floor, dressing rooms, meeting rooms and administrative quarters.

One of the scenes photographed by the news picture representative was the turning over of keys to the auditorium to Johnny Jones, Negro manager, by Mr. Kurts.

CEREMONY SUNDAY AFTERNOON TO MARK DEDICATION OF COLLEGE PAR AUDITORIUM

Dr. W. B. Selah, Pastor Of Galloway Methodist Church, Principal Speaker

Jackson College Choir, Coleridge Taylor Ensemble To Furnish Music

Jackson, Mis., Mar. 3.--(DSN)—The College Park Auditorium on West Lynch Street built by the City of Jackson at a cost of some $300,000, for the expressed use of its Negro citizens as the result of growing protest and restrictment among Negro citizens over the denial of the use of the City Auditorium, which was recently completed and opened for use will be formally dedicated in a ceremony to be held at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

The principal speaker on the program of dedication will be Dr. W. B. Selah, Pastor of Galloway Memorial Methodist church, whose address is slated to follow remarks by Mayor Allen C. Thompson, Commissioner R. S. Withers, and Commissioner D. B. Sharon.

With City Parks and Recreation Director George Kurks as master of ceremonies, the program is set to include scripture reading by Rev. D. M. Bay, Pastor Central Methodist church; invocation by Dr. Herbert L. Long, Mississippi Baptist Seminary, with a response to the dedication address by Dr. J. L. Reddix, President of Jackson College. The benediction will be given by Rev. A. Burton Keeling, pastor St. Marks Episcopal church.

Music for the program will be furnished by the Lanier High School Band, the Jackson College Band, with special numbers by the Coleridge-Taylor Choral ensemble, and Jackson Colege Capella choir.

Dedication ceremony committee was composed of: R. S. Withers, chairman; George Kurts; J. J. Halbert; Bryant Horne; Dr. J. L. Reddix; Willard Johnson; James Gooden; Earl W. Banks; Johnny Jones.

College Park Auditorium Dedication Marred By Reports Of Racial Policy Forcing Cancellation Of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Show

Speakers Cited Need For Greater Work For Inter - Racial Cooperation And Good Will In City

JOHNNIE JONES INSTALLED AS MANAGER OF AUDITORIUM

The dedication and official opening of the New College Park Auditorium, last Sunday, built by the city of Jackson at a cost of more than $300,000 for the use of Negro citizens of the city in answer to their protest against the refusal of the use of the Municipal Auditorium and the denial of admission to attend cultural and artistic program presented at the Municipal Auditorium, was named by the reports and the absence of many prominent Negro Citizens was noted among the large number of vacant seats, as a results of reports and rumors during the week preceeding the dedication that the racial policy to be followed at the New Auditorium had forced the cancellation of the annual affair set for March 15, of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and organization of state and local Negro College and University women.

The racial policy set up for the College Park Auditorium prohibits the performance of white actors on its stage before Negro audiences.

What forced the cancellation of the annual affair of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority was the fact that they had engaged the Lamon-Goings Dance Troupe, an all-white group of the city for this year's annual affair, and that when it became known that the group had consented to headline the Delta Sigma Theta affair, the City Authorities; without benefit of an existing City ordnance, instituted the rule that white actors would be prohibited from performing before Negro audiences at the New Auditorium.

The annual affair of the Delta Theta Sigma Sorority is held for the purpose of raising funds for the support of several worthy projects among them a library at the Oakley Training School for Negro boys.

An officer of the Sorority stated that the organization was busy this week returning the money for hundreds of dollars for tickets sold throughout the state which had to be done following the forced cancellation of the affair.

Meanwhile the dedication ceremony proceeded as per schedule the main feature of which was the introductory remarks by Mayor Allen C. Thompson, the dedicatory address by Dr. W. B. Selah, Pastor of Galloway Memorial Methodist Church, the leading and most historic white church of the city named in honor of the late Bishop Galloway and the responsive remarks by the President J. L. Reddix of Jackson College.

Both Dr. Selah and President Reddix drew rounds of enthusiastic applause from the audience as they cited the need for working for better and closer inter-racial cooperation and good-will between the races in the city.

City Park and Recreation director George Kirk, who acted as master of ceremonies presented the keys to Johnnie Jones, officially installing him as manager of the College Park Auditorium.

Following the program both Mayor Thompson and Mr. Kirk was approached by regarding the policy banning white actors from appearing on the stage of the Auditorium.

The Mayor indicated that he would be willing to discuss the matter with a Negro group at some future time; while Mr. Kirk stated that it was a matter which rested in the hands of the city authorities.

Negro Scientist Aids in Important Dental Discovery

JERSEY CITY, N. J.—(ANP)—A Fisk graduate holding a degree in chemistry was among scientists who collaborated on experiments which proved the new ammoniated chlorophyl toothpaste to be stainless.

Bacteriologist Lois Shields of Amm-i-dent, Inc., of Jersey City conducted a series of tastes to determine the germicidal effects of the ammoniated dentrifice.

A native of Jersey City and a product of its public school system, Miss Shields was formerly a bacteriologist in a tubercular hospital, the B. S. Pollak Hospital for Chest Diseases in Jersey City. She was clinical laboratory technician. Active in community affairs the Jersey clinician is secretary of the Inter-Racial Welfare Group.

Growth Topic Of Intramural Assn. Meeting

WASHINGTON — The National Intramural and Recreation Association met at Howard university Friday and Saturday, April 4-5. This organization was founded by William Wasson after a study of intramural programs in small colleges financed by a Carnegie grant.

Theme of the conference for intramural directors was "The Rightful Place of Intramurals in the College Program." Al Lumley of Amherst college blamed the light regard held for intramurals on the failure of directors to enlist the aid and sympathy of the administrators.

He felt that intramural interest is centered around dancing with brief interludes of intramural activity.

Edward L. Jackson, head of the Department of Physical Education for Men at Howard, said, "Intramurals offer us a chance to see ourselves and others in our proper perspectives and enable us to function democratically in all situations."

Mrs. Maryrose Allen, head of the Department of Physical Education for Women at Howard, was of the opinion that most women's intramural programs are merely glorified men's programs.

Herman Nielson of Hampton, high-lighted the Friday afternoon session as he illustrated how effective intramural activities can be as laboratories for construction.

State Parks For Negroes

The Alabama Federation of Labor has directed attention to a serious need in the state when it calls for establishment of state parks and recreational opportunities for Negroes. The state's lack in this regard has long been conspicuous.

Alabama has 10 major parks. They are all for white people. It has seven minor parks. Negroes are not admitted to them, either. There are three public fishing lakes and many historical sites and recreational areas, but not one is open to Negroes. And yet Negroes comprise about one-third of the state's population.

The situation is a crying injustice and a shame upon the state.

The state government cannot excuse itself on the grounds that the oversight has not been called to its attention. This is not the first time the Alabama Federation of Labor has urged action. Other citizens, white and Negro, have pointed to the need. Officials of the Department of Conservation have acknowledged the need.

A detailed exploration of the subject was made in "Public Recreation in Alabama," published by the Alabama State Planning Board in 1948. The board recommended four state parks for Negroes, one in Jefferson County, one in the central Black Belt, one in the Tennessee Valley and one in the Mobile area. In some cases it went as far as to suggest specific sites.

The need for Negro state parks in these areas is obvious. Parks should be relatively close to large numbers of the people who might use them. That accounts for the proposed parks near Birmingham and Mobile. A state park for Negroes in the Black Belt would take care of the heavy Negro population in that area. And a park in the Tennessee Valley could serve the Negroes of North Alabama.

In establishing a park in the Tennessee Valley (a site near Florence is proposed) the state could probably get help from the Tennessee Valley Authority. In its 1951 report the authority noted that during the year Kentucky opened a state park for Negroes on TVA reservoir lands, being the third state to do this. Counties within the TVA territory in 1951 were developing 15 park areas, including two for Negroes. The TVA has cooperated with Alabama in opening up and developing the new state park (for whites) near Guntersville.

Public recreation has become an important concern of government in encouraging a better citizenship. Alabama cannot afford to continue to neglect this obligation respecting one-third of its population.

Wiregrass Negro Facilities Rate Among Nation's Best

By E. P. WALLACE

DOTHAN, Ala., Sept. 1—Negroes in the Wiregrass section of Alabama are really up and going places. Recreation and school facilities are on equal basis with that of the many churches here irrespective to denomination.

The modern and up-to-date community house which was erected here recently is one of the finest to be found anywhere in the South. It is equipped with every modern device that is to be used in the field of recreation.

The swimming pool which is an added feature gives the center that touch anyone would look for when it comes to leisure time pleasure.

Among the activities conducted daily at the center are checkers, dominoes, basketball, croquet, softball and for weekly activities, one will find dancing or Wednesday night, club meetings and several other out-of-door games.

The plant has not been completed as yet. It calls for a lighted baseball and football field, a large playground with space for tennis, badminton and track.

A spacious gymnasium with double courts provides basketball space for two games at a time.

The facilities are under the direction of E. D. McGriff. He has assisting him Mrs. Katie Holloway and Andrew Bell who is in charge of water safety program.

Other outstanding features of Dothan as far as its Negroes are concerned are the Carver High School which they pride very much, the Elks' Rest on Burdeshaw Street, their many churches, Baptists, Methodists and Jehovah's Witnesses and the Negro policeman who patrols their section. He is respected by them. He lives with them and attend their churches and take part in their civic affairs as a leader.

Dothan is really in the Wiregrass section, but this isn't all, for if you want peanuts, this is the place to find them. Once a year, the people celebrate the festival of the peanut. They come here by the thousands from every nook and corner. Next month is the time for it. They are making preparations now for this gala day.

This town of approximately 32,000 population is one of the fastest growing ones in the South. It is the gateway to both Georgia and Florida.

More Recreation For Negroes

Sociologists long ago discovered that a relationship exists between recreational opportunities and juvenile, even adult, delinquency. The more playgrounds and parks a community has, within limits, the lower the crime and delinquency rates. Also there are ample statistics to indicate that the crime rate for Negroes is higher than that for whites. Generally speaking, however, especially in the South, Negroes have fewer or inferior recreational facilities. From these facts it easily follows that one of the important causes for the higher Negro delinquency rate in the South is the dearth of playground opportunities. It is, therefore, a wise community that moves to improve its recreational facilities for Negroes.

Birmingham has been showing its wisdom in this regard in many ways in recent years. Through the Park and Recreation Board it has opened a swimming pool for Negroes. Only yesterday the new $90,000 Negro golf course was officially opened for play. Now only a nine-hole course, it will be extended eventually to 18. In the last 10 years 11 parks for Negroes have been designated by the city, but some of them lack equipment.

It is fine to have this official recognition of the city's needs and opportunities for constructive action. It is especially heartening to see a like sense of responsibility on the part of the general public. This is manifested in the organization of a citizens' advisory committee and a plan for a corporation to develop recreation facilities for Negroes in Birmingham. The plan was given its approval by the Park and Recreation Board following an appearance before the board of Henry P. Johnston, a member of the advisory committee.

The committee is laying broad plans for action by which Negroes may be helped to help themselves. Negro leaders will execute programs worked out by members of both races on the committee. The proposed corporation will receive and disburse funds for expansion and improvement of Negro recreational facilities as determined by the Park and Recreation Board.

The first project of the proposed corporation is sponsorship of a music festival at Legion Field next Mothers Day. There will be, however, other projects designed to raise money for the excellent cause of giving the city's Negro residents (approximately one-third of the *total* population) more places and opportunities to play.

Ala 1952

Lights go on at Negro park in Slossfield

More than 800 persons turned out Friday night to see newly installed lights for the baseball diamond dedicated at Slossfield Park for Negroes.

Bill Moore, principal of Acipco Negro Grammar School told city and company officials at the gathering:

"We're proud for our youth to have good clean sports under these lights."

Taking part in the dedication ceremony were Mayor Cooper Green, James A. Downey Jr., president of Park and Recreation Board; C. O. Hodges, president of American Cast Iron Pipe Co.; Buell Warren, public relations director of the company, and Bill Garrett, representing the Sloss-Sheffield Co.

The $24,000 lighting project was financed jointly by the City Commission, Park and Recreation Board and American Cast Iron Pipe Co.

Sloss-Sheffield Co. contributed the land for the park.

Carver Park, Negro Recreational Center, Opens Tonight At 7:30

Combat juvenile delinquency, develop leadership and provide organized recreation.

Those are the underlying principles on which Carver Park—a 40-acre recreational center for Montgomery Negroes—will be operated.

With dedication ceremonies set tonight at 7:30, Carver Park will be under the supervision of the City Parks and Recreation Department—designer and underwriter of the cost of construction and equipment.

Located at the rear of Carver High School at the intersection of Fairview Avenue and Oak Street, the new center will offer a full-scale park and playground program to the Negroes of Montgomery.

A full-time director — Ernell Hill, graduate of Alabama State Teachers College—has been employed to organize and supervise recreational activities.

Regulation baseball and softball diamonds are now ready for use and a football field will be constructed by fall.

The softball field is lighted for night play. And tonight's opening ceremonies feature a clash between the East Side Wolves and the Carver Park All-Stars.

Hill, energetic young Negro leader, plans to organize adult and 18-and-under softball leagues next season with local business firms sponsoring the teams.

The City Parks and Recreation Department will furnish balls, bats and other essentials for the recreational center.

Aside from softball and baseball, other means of recreation now available include horseshoes, dominoes, checkers and ping pong.

The park will be open from 8:30 until 11:30 in the morning and 2:30 until 6:00 in the afternoon.

State Secures Land For Use As Negro Park

Alabama has purchased 2,200 acres of land from the Tennessee Valley Authority for a new Negro State Park in North Alabama.

State Conservation Director Earl McGowin wound up the transaction yesterday when he turned over a $51,630 state warrant to D. C. Dugger, manager of the Wheeler-Pickwick TVA Reservoir.

The land is located in the Joe Wheeler Dam area, including 1,800 acres in Lauderdale and 400 acres in Lawrence County.

There are 37 buildings, 17 of them brick on the Lawrence section.

The park site is on the north side of the Tennessee River in the Wheeler Reservoir on First Creek.

The park will be set aside at first for day-use, swimming, picnicking, camping, boating and general recreation purposes, McGowin said.

Playground Is Furnished For Negroes In Wetumpka

WETUMPKA, Ala., July 25—The City Council of Wetumpka is sponsoring a park and recreational playground for Negroes here, according to Louis Peak, chairman of the newly-created Park and Recreation Board for Negroes.

Mr. Peak also stated that a meeting held at the Elmore County agent's office at 5 p.m. this past Sunday the following officers were elected: Louis Peak, chairman; Prof. W. B. Doby, assistant chairman; A. Geeter, treasurer; Mrs. L. L. Brewer, secretary and Mrs. Amelia Berry, historian.

Attorney Milliner has been serving in an official capacity along with County Agent Robert Jones who attended the meeting this past Sunday.

The board members were elected to serve various length of terms with chairman Peak serving five years, Professor Doby three years, Geeter four, Mrs. Brewer one, and Mrs. Berry two years.

Chairman Peak was instrumental in securing the eight-acre plot that will be used and the project is scheduled to get underway as soon as all minor details can be thrashed out.

The park and playground will serve all of the people in and around Wetumpka. It will have a football, baseball and basketball field and afford other space for playground purposes. It is located on the eastside of the Elmore County Training School campus and adjoining the Thorn Hill Bend.

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Non-Segregation Is Advised at 4 Playgrounds

Action by District Recreation Board Would Bring Total Number Here to 12

By Eve Edstrom
Post Reporter

Nonsegregated use of Sherwood, Kenilworth, Park View and Trinidad Playgrounds was recommended yesterday by transition committee members of the District Recreation Board.

They also recommended that Edgewood, Turkey Thicket, Rosedale and Wheatley Playgrounds continue to be operated for white use only.

Anticipating a large turnout at a public hearing on the recommendations, the board scheduled it for 10 a. m., May 7, in the District Building board room. Final action can be taken at a Recreation Board meeting at 2:30 p. m. May 13.

The board already operates eight nonsegregated units. Yesterday's recommendations would bring the number to 12. Three of those recommended for "open" use have been operated as white units, but Park View at Princeton and Warder sts. nw., has been restricted to Negro use.

Although Park View is in an "overwhelmingly Negro neighborhood, committee members noted that children of white families in the area do use the playground, and members added there is a "growing community sentiment that Park View should serve the recreational needs of all the people."

Trinidad Playground at Trinidad and Meigs pl. ne., and Wheatley Playground at Montello ave. and Neal st. ne., are located near one another. The Negro population in the area has grown to 48 percent, and committee members recommended that Trinidad be an "open" unit. Since Wheatley School is a white school, the committee recommended no change at Wheatley Playground despite its proximity to Trinidad.

In recommending that Sherwood Playground between 9th and 10th sts. at G st. ne., be operated as an "open" unit, the committee observed that Madison Elementary School across the street recently was transferred to Negro use, and declared:

"Use by the Madison pupils has given rise to problems in enforcing segregation, as it is difficult for children to understand why it is used by Negroes before 3 p. m. and denied them after 3 p. m."

Kenilworth Playground at Kenilworth ave. and Ord st. ne., has been used by Negro children "in increasing numbers," the committee said, and "several incidents have occurred" when recreation leaders invited them to leave.

The committee recommended no change in restricted use of the four other playgrounds because they are well used by white children, and other facilities are available to Negro children in the areas.

BRASS HAT'S OPPOSITION OVERRIDDEN:

Board Of Recreation Ends Segregation At Rosedale

WASHINGTON

Despite the strong opposition of Chairman Col. Frank Collins, members of the Board of Recreation voted, 5-2, on Thursday, to end segregation at Rosedale Playground.

The playground will be reopened Monday with an interracial staff, according to Milo F. Christiansen, superintendent of recreation.

Voting for the move were Mrs. Alice C. Hunter, Walter L. Fowler, Henry Gichner, Edward J. Kelly, and Miss Mary H. Parker. Opposing votes ware cast by Colonel Collins and Mrs. Ethel B. Hankins.

Spokesmen both for and against integration at Rosedale Playground aired their views Tuesday at a four-and-one-half hour public hearing of the Recreation Board.

Rosedale has been the center of a heated controversy for some time over its "all white policy," despite the playground's location in an area about equally divided between white and colored residents.

The drowning of a colored youth in the Rosedale swimming pool last summer after the playground had closed for the night, served to intensify the efforts of community groups to end segregation there.

Reached Boiling Point

The campaign continued throughout the summer and came to a boiling point several weeks ago when a colored man reportedly fired several shots at a group of white youths who allegedly attacked him when he attempted to enter the playground.

Following this incident Rosedale was ordered closed until a final decision could be reached on it's future.

On Tuesday close to 300 persons jammed Room 100 in the District Building for the hearing which opened at 10 a.m. The session moved smoothly during the morning hours when friends of non-segregation expressed their views, but struck a snag in the afternoon when John H. Connaughton, local white lawyer, hurled a number of sweeping charges at the colored citizens of Washington.

Spectators Surprised

The remarks of Mr. Connaughton, past president of the Federation of Citizens Associations and president of the Northwest Council of Citizens Association, were so bitter that they drew open gasps of surprise from many of the spectators and some of the people Mr. Connaughton represented.

At one portion of his savage attack, the lawyer said that colored people in the District had organized a plot "to push white people around in busses and street cars on certain days."

His statement was immediately challenged by Henry Gichner who defied him to produce any tangible proof of his accusations.

Kept Throwing Charges

Undismayed by Mr. Gichner's implication that he (Mr. Connaughton), was expressing his own views and not those of the people he represented, the lawyer plunged ahead outlining reasons why colored people should be kept separate from white people.

"Most of the crime" and almost all of the dope traffic in Washington can be traced to colored persons, Mr. Connaughton said as the color in his face grew red and his eyes darted from one board member to another and then back to the sheets of paper spread before him on a table.

Scarcely pausing for breath, Mr. Connaughton charged in rapid succession that an "organized and well financed group" is determined to end segregation at Rosedale by violence: that white children will not play with colored children: that God created certain physical differences in the races: that Rosedale Playground is not needed by colored children.

'Direct Information'

According to Mr. Connaughton he represented the following groups:

Petworth Citizens Association; National Gateway Association; Citizens Protective Alliance; Citizens Committee for Community Action: Randle Highlands Citizen Association: Hill Crest Citizens Association: Capital Hill Southeast Citizens.

The lawyer also reported that he is a "northerner" from Kansas and that his father had fought to "free the slaves" and he himself has many "fine colored friends."

At several points in his testimony, Mr. Connaughton managed to slur the word N---o so that it sounded like something else.

After Mr. Connaughton finished his tirade, he was followed by Fred Midgley of the Dahlgren Citizens Association who reported that despite the heavy influx of colored residents into Brookland where he lives, he had refused to sell to colored people.

Rosedale to Reopen Monday, Integration Ruling Follows

Rosedale playground will be reopened Monday noon as a white play area and the District Recreation Board, sitting as a transition committee, will meet Tuesday to decide whether it should remain all-white or be integrated.

This was announced yesterday by Recreation Superintendent Milo F. Christiansen after a special meeting of the Recreation Board. Christiansen had ordered the playground at 17th and Gale sts. ne. closed indefinitely after a fracas Tuesday in which two shots were fired and bricks and bats were wielded.

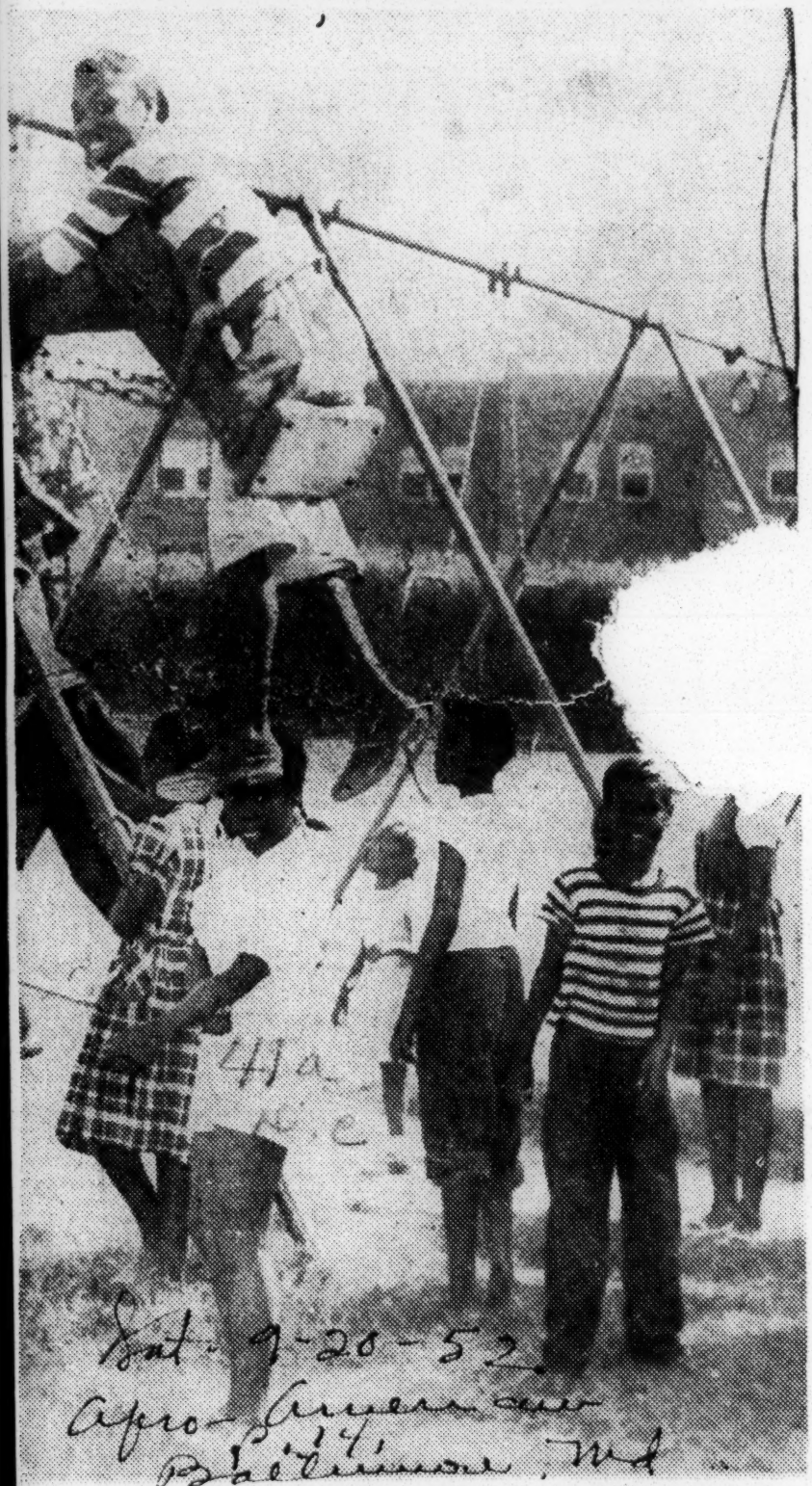
The District Commissioners had asked that the playground be reopened as soon as possible.

Christiansen said adequate police protection had been promised to maintain order and that the playground staff would be called in to recreation headquarters today or Monday for special instructions on handling the situation.

The Commissioners met in closed session with Christiansen yesterday morning. At an earlier closed session they were given a briefing by police on events at Rosedale this week. Present were Deputy Chief of Police Howard V. Covell, executive officer, and Inspector George R. Wallrodt, who has been in charge of policing Rosedale.

The trouble Tuesday which sent one man to the hospital in critical condition was the most serious of several demonstra-

'I Couldn't Arrest Them'



Some of the 100-odd children who played at disputed Rosedale playground Thursday without incident. White children joined them. One policeman said, "I couldn't arrest them, they were having such a good time."

Over 100 Climb Fence To Get In Locked Rec Area

Police Summoned, But Make No Effort To Force Kiddies To Leave The Playground

WASHINGTON — The all-white policy at Rosedale Playground suffered a setback Thursday as over 100 colored children used the facilities despite the opposition of recreation department employees.

Policemen were summoned to Rosedale, but they made no direct attempt to force the children to leave the playground, which has been the center of a heated controversy.

One policeman was overheard to say, "I can't arrest these children. They're having such a good time.

The children gained entry to the playground by climbing over and under a heavy wire fence. Once inside they used all the facilities except the swimming pool, which had been drained.

Entered On Wednesday

On Wednesday the children of the area were also successful in gaining admittance, but their visit was cut short when the playground was closed in order to force them to leave.

When the children entered the playground again early Thursday afternoon, recreation employees countered by lowering the American flag and closing the playground to everyone.

A short time later, Rosedale was re-opened and once again colored children went over and under the fence to enter the play area.

Seek The Shade

Faced with the children's apparent determination to use the playground and the refusal of police to intervene, recreation employees retired to the shade of the locker building, where they watched colored and white children playing together without friction.

Played Together

By 3:30 p.m. there were approximately 102 colored and 54 white children on the playground.

At one end of the playground a white football team was engaged in practice, while a few yards away from them a group of colored children played touch football.

At the other end of the playground a mixed group played a game of basketball and other similar groups used the swings, sand boxes and other available facilities.

Several of the police on the scene are reported to have asked parents to remove their children from the playground, but took no action when their request was ignored.

An AFRO photographer was halted by a white employee who told him "Hey boy, you can't take any pictures."

According to several spectators in the area, attempts had been made by several white persons to prevent the colored children from entering by sitting in the holes which they used as a passage under the fence.

However, the attempts were half hearted and were soon abandoned.

This latest development in the Rosedale situation is believed to have been a spur of the moment inspiration by several parents in the area who have grown impatient at the way in which the problem has been handled by the recreation board and the District Commissioners.

To date, though Commissioners Camalier and Donahue have expressed concern over the playground, no action has been taken to end discrimination.

The fight to change the policy was intensified in June when a 14-year-old colored boy was drowned in the pool, after he climbed over the fence when the playground was closed for the night.

Has Been Picketed

Leading the attack has been the Citizens' Committee to Integrate Rosedale, which has organized several picket lines around the playground and the board of recreation.

Recently, members of the Summer Interracial Workshop staged several "non-violent" demonstrations at Rosedale, which culminated in the arrest of a number of demonstrators.

They were later released but their arrest helped to focus attention on the serious need for recreational facilities in the area.

First Negro State Park To Be Opened in March

Constitution
Jr. 2-22-52 Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service

CORDELE, Feb. 21—John Pate Bridges, superintendent of the Veterans Memorial State Park, Lake Blackshear, between Cordele and Americus, said Thursday that Georgia's first Negro state park will be opened in March.

It will be known as "Colored Georgia Veterans Memorial Park."

A 150-acre tract of the park land was set aside last year by Gov. Herman Talmadge and State Park Director Newton Move to serve as a Negro park and since that time Bridges has been busy developing the area as a separate project. A private and separate highway entrance has been built for Negro citizens and work is now underway on a recreation building, fishing piers and boat docks. Playground equipment is being installed and baseball, basketball, softball and other athletic fields are being developed similar to the ones now in operation on the white side of the park.

Bridges says the park has been designated as a memorial to all Georgia Negro veterans who served their country in time of war. He emphasizes constantly, however, the fact that although the park, both white and colored sections, are memorials to Georgia veterans, it does not mean that only veterans may enjoy the facilities. The park, just like any other state park in Georgia, is open to all citizens at all time.

Bridges says that much interest is being taken in the project by Georgia Negroes and that he is receiving letters from Negro civic and religious leaders from all over the nation commending Georgia for making such a park possible and pledging support to the project.

Plans are being made for a formal opening this spring, Bridges says.

Ga. to Open State Park For Negroes

CORDELE, Ga. — Georgia's first Negro state park will be opened near here in March. It will be named Colored Georgia Veterans' Memorial Park.

Gov. Herman Talmadge and State Park Director Newton Move set aside a 150-acre tract last year. John Pate Bridges, superintendent of the Veterans' Memorial Park, Lake Blackshear, has been busily developing the area as a separate project.

Courier

Work is now proceeding on a recreation building. There will be fishing piers and boat docks, along with playground equipment. The park will be a memorial to all Georgia Negro veterans who served their country in time of war. It will be open to all citizens, however.

White Realtor Gives New Park To Negroes At Powder Springs

ATLANTA, Georgia — (SNS) —

A better community for Negroes is in the making in nearby Powder Springs, indirectly showering some extent of credit on an Atlanta group which is dedicated to better conditions for their race.

Powder Springs will soon have a new park for Negro children to play in. It will be the first of its kind for a Negro community which has known only dirt streets and shabby homesteads for most of its residents.

moved

The new park which has been donated by a local white real estate dealer, who has also constructed a community of first class homes for Negroes to purchase, was described yesterday by Mrs. Mary Anderson, First Vice President of the League of Negro Women Voters.

The League recently organized a branch to their organization in Powder Springs, with Mrs. Ann C. Florence as president. This branch immediately took a leading role in civic affairs and was called in to accept the gift to the community.

The realtor, W. R. Tapp, has carved out an area to build better homes for Negroes. He told Mrs. Anderson that the community would have modern street lamps, paved streets and other up to date improvements.

But later the business man realized there were no recreational facilities for Negro youth in the community and donated a four-acre tract of land for such a purpose. He then announced plans to build a lake on the site.

The entire project will be known at the Minnie Holcomb project in hon of Mrs. Holcomb, a former employee of Mr. Tapp. Tapp was quoted as saying he had become sympathetic with the Negro problem through knowing Mrs. Holcomb during past years.

Mrs. Ruby Blackburn, president of the league, said proudly that this would be only one of the successes of the league. She explained that her group will spend a great deal of time in the future attempting to bring about civic improvemens wherever possible.

Grand Jury Asks More Parks For Atlanta Negroes

Seeks New Laws To Squash High Rate Of Slayings

BY LERONE BENNETT, JR.

The outgoing October Grand Jury repeated insistent demands Monday that additional parks and a golf course be constructed for Negroes.

The 23-man body returned a presentment which said:

"In our opinion additional parks and a golf course should be provided for Negroes (sic) as outlined in the presentments of the Grand Jury of September-October, 1951. We understand that certain funds for this purpose are already available."

Three times in 1950 and twice in 1951 Grand Jury presentments have pointed out that there is no park for Negroes in the northeast section of the city.

George I. Simons, general manager of the Atlanta Park department, announced on August 21 that construction would begin on a park in the Butler Street area as soon as a "suitable piece of land" can be purchased.

NEGRO PARK FUND

Figures in the office of the city comptroller indicate that $64,492.94 are available for immediate use. This money is earmarked "Reserve Fund for Negro Park."

Simons said Monday:

"The 64 thousand dollars set aside for a Negro park is insufficient to build the kind I want to build. You can't get very much for 64 thousand. We are proceeding, however, with what we have. Definite progress is being made on both projects."

The park manager indicated that more money might be included in the budget next year.

Earlier in the month, members of the City Council Park committee said that the proposed golf course was in the planning stages. They promised that the course could be played on by next spring.

SITE CHOSEN

At that time, Jesse Draper, a member of the committee, said "We have already picked an area location, and we have just about decided on a site within the area."

The Grand Jury also:

1. Repeated former Grand Juries recommendations that the legislature enact a "habitual criminal" law This law would provide that upon the third conviction of a prisoner on charges of felony, he shall be deemed to be a habitual criminal and that punishment shall be life imprisonment.

2. Recommended that authority to fix sentences of convicted criminals be left to the presiding judge who has access to the record of these persons.

HOMICIDE PROBLEM

3. Pointed to the large number of citizens carrying guns and added: "The majority of indictments for assault and murder are the result of people who have a pistol on their person engaging in an argument and then firing the pistol when their anger is aroused. We recognize that the control of this situation is a real problem and call attention to it with the hope that by keeping it before the public, someone will find a practical solution."

4. Observed that "many of our schools need enlarging" because of the high birth rate and asked school officials to expedite the building program.

NEGROES TO USE PARK FACILITIES

Certain Parts To Be Open Two Days Each Week

City Park facilities will be opened to Negroes Tuesday for the first time.

Allen H. Generes, president of City Park Improvement Association, said certain parts of the park would be opened to Negroes on Tuesdays and Fridays on a temporary basis under a plan worked out at the request of the federal district court here.

A Negro group filed a petition in federal district court three years ago asking that park facilities be made available to Negroes.

Generes issued a statement Monday giving details of the plan, which he said had been approved by attorneys for the Negro group.

The statement follows in full:

"The matter of the use of City Park by Negroes has been in litigation in the United States courts for the past three years and the court finally requested the (City Park) board to make a plan whereby Negroes would be entitled to use of the park on a segregated basis, but at the same time have equal facilities.

"After extended hearing, such a plan has been made and concurred in by attorneys representing the Negro group, and as a result thereof, they will be permitted to use certain tennis courts, one of the golf courses, and some section of the lake for fishing and boating on Tuesdays and Fridays."

"This plan is on a temporary basis, until such time as the Seabrook Park, which is planned exclusively for Negroes, is completed."

Open Recreation Center To All Until Jim Crow Park Is Completed

NEW ORLEANS—Negro citizens are enjoying facilities of the city-owned 1,500-acre recreation center here, but park authorities say this privilege is only temporary and lasts only until a Jim Crow park, planned by the mayor, has been constructed.

On the strength of a suit against the City Park Improvement Association, managers of the center, Negroes may now use the golf links, the tennis courts, the lagoons for boating and fishing and other facilities

The proposed Jim Crow park will be situated on the lake front and is said to contain about 50 acres. It will have limited recreation facilities. It is felt that it will be inadequate to supply the recreational needs of 200,000 Negro residents of New Orleans.

City park has more than 1,500 acres and contains an eighteen hole golf course, a swimming pool, 26 baseball diamonds, tennis courts, barbecue pits and picnic places, lagoons and an 18,000-seat stadium.

Many leaders in the city state that if the temporary arrangement turns out to be just that, they plan other suits.

Plan Jim Crow Rec Center In New Orleans

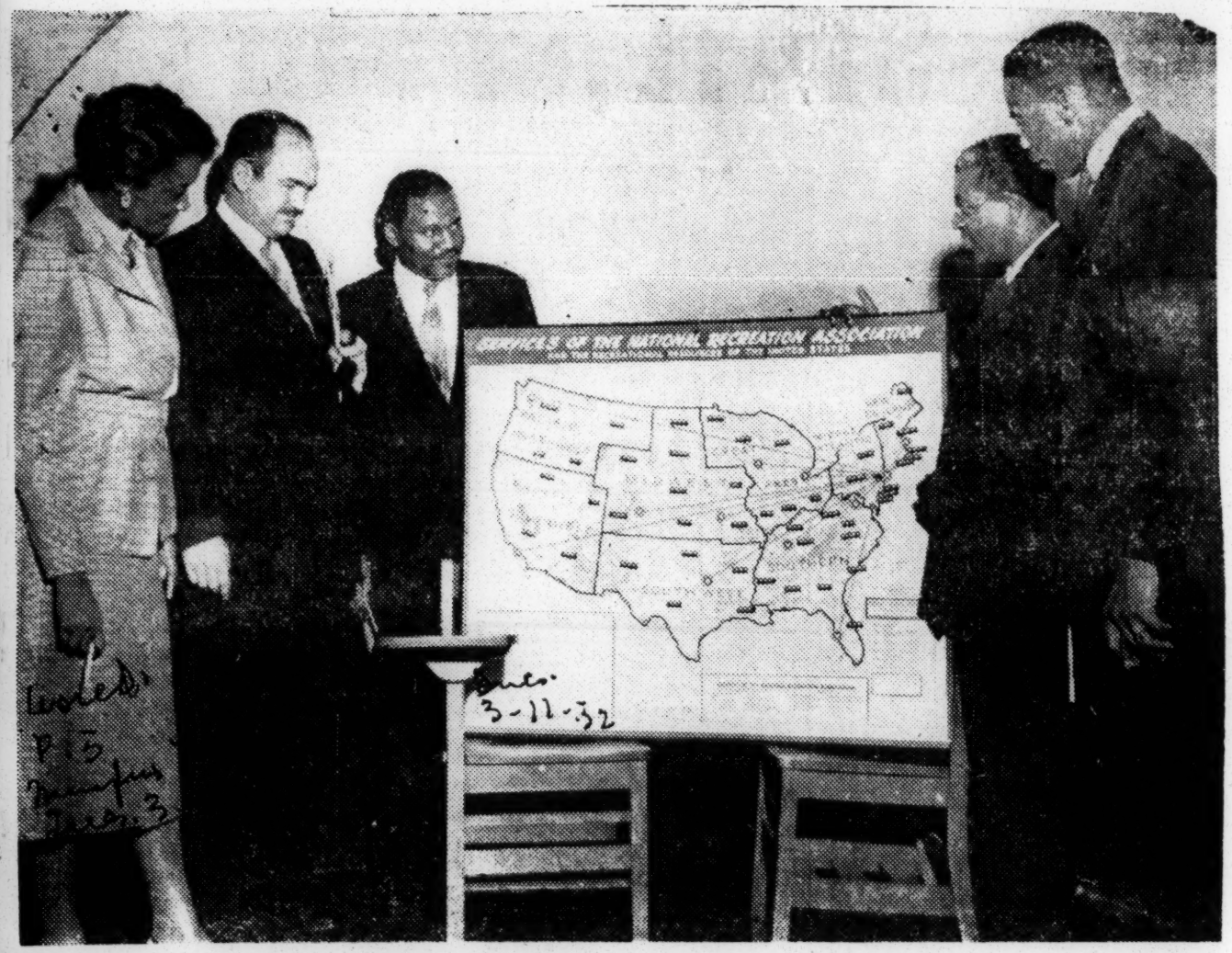
NEW ORLEANS—Approximately 50 Negro leaders of the city heard the New Orleans mayor outline plans for his pet Jim Crow recreation park program for the lake front section of the city last week.

The project embraces property in the Seabrook section and on Lake Pontchartrain. The mayor stated that he was seeking financial assistance from Negro business groups in constructing homes which will sell for less than $10,000.

The mayor said he believed Negroes were not interested in using the faclities of City Park nor Audibon park, public owned recreation centers which have prohibited Negroes from entering them for recreational purposes.

Dr. Rivers Frederick, head of one of the largest Negro businesses in the city, stated that he was not interested in a Jim Crow recreation center but felt that such projects should be open to people of all races. He was asked to head a committee which is seeking to secure the necessary finance for the residential project. Assisting him will be Dr. Albert W. Dent, who also stated his difference with the mayor in his stand about a Jim Crow park.

Many leaders invited to the meeting did not attend because they did not wish to go on record as condoning segregation on one hand and fighting it on the other.



SERVICES OF THE NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION are shown on the above map of the United States. These areas, including Atlanta are located in or near some vital defense area, where an attempt is being made to provide recreation.

Pictured also are delegates at the State-Wide Recreation Convention at the Atlanta School of Social Work.

Left to Right: Mrs. Marjorie Johnson, Reman, James Madison and Phenizee F. Ransom, corder; Rev. Robert B. Griffin, Clarence D. Cole-Jr. — (Perry Photo)

Tangible Results Gained At Recreation Conference

BY GEORGE COLEMAN

ATLANTA, Georgia — (SNS) — The State wide Recreation Conference got down to tangible business Thursday and Friday by going through actual practice and spending hours of instruction and training into methods of recreation for all groups under the expert direction of Mrs. Anne Livingston, recreation specialist of the National Recreation Association.

Both Thursday and Friday were spent entirely with actual practice during which time recreation leaders from various parts of the state joined in at the University Homes ball room.

The group was taught many new types of dances, forms of games, and received a valuable new insight into the art of creating recreation for the public.

Among those taking part were: Mrs. Carolyn Jeeter, of the John J. Eagan Homes, Atlanta; Mrs. Calhoun, City recreation leader, Macon, Ga.; W. T. Jones, Augusta, Ga.; Miss Constance Brunson, student, Atlanta School of Social Work, and native of St. Petersburg, Fla.

Others in the group were: Walter Levi, of Washington, D. C.; J. T. Kelley, City Recreation Department, Atlanta; Miss Rochelle Jones, City Recreation Department; Jean Counch, Holsey Temple CME Church, Atlanta; Louise Beckum, Atlanta, and James Winston, Atlanta.

Taking part in the training program representing East Point, Ga., was Charlie H. Green. Three came from the Bethlehem Community Center. They were Mrs. Massalena Bradford, B. F. Bradford and Clyde McCrary.

Alexandria to Dedicate Negro Swimming Pool on Friday

Alexandria's new Negro swimming pool will be dedicated at 3 p.m. Friday.

It is the city's first swimming pool for colored residents. It will be named Johnson Memorial Pool in memory of two brothers who drowned while swimming in the Potomac River.

Morris Leroy Johnson, 11, and Lonnie Richard Johnson, 9, drowned last July 30. That same day, the National Production Authority authorized Alexandria to go ahead with construction of the Negro pool. Permission at first had been denied and the city appealed.

Henry H. Fowler, National Production Administrator, will be principal speaker at the dedication ceremonies which will take place beside the new pool. Mr. Fowler is due to become administrator of the Defense Production Administration on Sunday.

Others on the program include Mayor Franklin P. Backus, Alexandria recreation director Eugene Barnwell, Dr. O. D. Durant, chairman of the City Wide Recreation Advisory Committee; Attorney Edwin C. Brown, the Rev. John Molly of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and the Rev. N. S. Hargraves of Ebenezer Baptist Church.

The new pool is 50 feet by 100 feet and cost about $70,000 to build. It is located at First and Payne streets, adjacent to the Parker - Gray High School grounds. The city recently received permission from NPA to build bath houses and locker rooms, and they now are under construction. The city plans to open the pool June 14.

Build Swim Pool After Two Drown

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—(NNPA)—The first municipal pool in northern Virginia for colored swimmers was dedicated and opened here last Friday in memory of two young brothers who drowned last year while sneaking a swim in the Potomac River.

The pool was named the Johnson Memorial pool in memory of the brothers—Lonnie and Leroy Johnson, aged 9 and 11 years, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Johnson.

The pool is the second in the city. There also is one for whites. The new pool opened officially for daily swimming on June 14.

Approximately fifty youngsters of the estimated 200 who attended the dedication ceremonies took their first plunge after the program last Friday.

Mrs. Johnson, mother of the two boys for whom the pool was named, appeared at the ceremonies with her husband. She thanked city officials and civic groups who worked for over four years to get the pool so colored residents of Alexandria could swim in a safe and supervised place.

41b 1952 North Carolina

North Carolina Teachers To Dedicate $100,000 Project

DURHAM, N. C. — (ANP) — The North Carolina Teachers Association will dedicate its Hammocks Beach recreation project next week.

The buildings included in the current program are completed. These comprise a large structure known as a general purpose building which contains offices, dining room, kitchen, facilities for holding meetings, rest rooms and space for dancing as well as motor courts for visitors.

Located on the Atlantic with a wonderful ocean front, the huge plot comprising 4,000 acres was given to the teachers' association by Dr. William Sharpe, a noted brain surgeon of New York city.

Dr. Sharpe who acquired the land some years ago and who spent his vacations in North Carolina, developed an interest in the Negroes along the ocean front and observing the lack of recreation facilities available to the group, he offered the land to the teachers.

The teachers raised $100,000 voluntarily among themselves as a contribution toward improvement of the site and construction of buildings. It is these structures which are now ready for dedication.

Made of concrete block and beautifully yet simply designed, the buildings make Hammocks Beach one of the most attractive watering spots which Negroes own along the entire ocean. Use of the facilities will be restricted to the teacher members and their families of the Hammock Beach Corp., which was formed as a holding body.

Some of the outstanding edueators are on the board of directors. The officers include, Dr. H. L. Trigg, chairman; Dr. J. W. Seabrook, secretary; A. H. Anderson, vice-chairman, and John H. Wheeler, the banker of Durham, as treasurer.

Among the directors are Drs. F. L. Atkins, F. D. Bluford, L. S. Cozart, S. E. Duncan, Alphonso Elder, Clyde Edwin, D. D. Jones, Max King, H. Liston, W. Sharpe, W. R. Strassner, W. J. Trent, W. H. Watson, S. D. Williams and J. W. Broadhurst.

H. D. Cooper, G. H. Ferguson, W. L. Greene, J. H. Schooler and Mesdames Nannie H. Martin, Belle D. McCorkle, W. Sharpe and M. L. Woodson.

Dr. F. L. Atkins is chairman of the finance committee. Dr. A. Elder, president of North Carolina college, served as chairman of the building committee.